

Louisiana Board of Regents and the Louisiana Department of Education Transitional Courses Pilot: Monthly Updates



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Winter Cheer

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Pilot Partnership Conference Call. Earlier this month, a conference call was held with the members of the transitional courses pilot teams. Overall, feedback from the piloting high school teachers that participated during the call revealed that the courses went very well and that the student participants found them extremely helpful. Also, they remarked that students were highly engaged and demonstrated mastery of the skills taught during the instructional period. To assess the effectiveness and feasibility of implementing the courses state-wide, a researcher will be hired to collect and analyze data from each of the pilot sites. Some of the possible data indicators that will be used in the assessment include: ACT composite and subscores (Spring 2013 and at end of course – Dec. 2013 or Spring 2014); student demographic data (e.g., grade point average, free/reduced lunch status, etc.); and school data (e.g., percentage of free/reduced lunch students in the schools, percentage of special education students in the schools, etc.). Finalization of the proposed study and the hiring of a researcher will be accomplished in the coming months.

Jefferson District ACT Testing. Recently, students in the Jefferson district completed the ELA and mathematics transitional courses and were re-administered the ACT exam. Administrators in the Jefferson district indicated that this process went relatively smoothly. Now that the transitional courses are complete, the Jefferson district may explore other options such as offering ACT prep sessions for students still enrolled in the elective courses during the spring.

Happy Holidays. We wish you all a happy and healthy holiday season! Please enjoy your time away from work and we look forward to seeing everyone next year.

Special points of interest:

- ✓ Pilot Partnership Conference Call
- ✓ Jefferson District ACT Testing
- ✓ Happy Holidays



* For more immediate updates, please visit the Transitional Courses Pilot webpage at www.regents.louisiana.gov/transitional-courses-pilot/.